

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 have been canceled.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 4-7 are pending in the application.

The Examiner has maintained the provisional obviousness-type double patenting of claims 1-7 over co-pending Application Nos. 10/297,173, 11/000,007, and 11/014,779.

With respect to the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection, MPEP 804 states that “a provisional rejection *can* be addressed by both the applicant and the examiner without waiting for the first patent to issue” (emphasis added). Therefore, Applicants can also choose to defer a response to the provisional rejection until one of the applications is issued as a patent. Applicants respectfully defer the response to the provisional obviousness-type patenting rejection over U.S. Appln. Nos. 10/297,173, 11/000,007, and 11/014,779 at the present time.

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by EP 0930538 (“EP ‘538”).

In EP ‘538, an adhesive layer is on at least one side of the tape body and the porous screen is laid on the adhesive layer. The constitution of layers in EP ‘538 may be porous screen / adhesive layer / tape body (support)/ adhesive layer / porous screen. In EP ‘538, the porous screen is laid on the adhesive layer. When the cleaning tape is subjected to pressure (as shown in Fig. 7), the adhesive layer emerges from the pores in the porous screen.

Claims 1-3 have been canceled. Applicants have amended claim 4 to recite, “A cleaning sheet consisting of a support, a thermoset resin cleaning layer having porosity formed on one side of the support, and a pressure-sensitive adhesive layer comprising a thermoplastic resin

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No.: 10/642,652

formed on the other side of the support.” Therefore, the constitution of layers in Applicants’ claim 4 is a thermoset resin having porosity / support / adhesive layer. Unlike EP ‘538, when the cleaning sheet of the present invention is subjected to pressure, the adhesive layer does not emerge from the thermoset resin layer having porosity because in Applicants’ claim 4, the support is between the thermoplastic resin (adhesive layer) and the thermoset resin layer having porosity.

Claims 5-7 are patentable over EP ‘538 at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 4.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cleaning sheet in the present invention is different from and not anticipated by the cleaning tape disclosed in EP ‘538. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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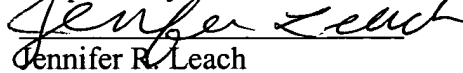
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Respectfully submitted,



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